

# **Community Update**

# Representative Jo Jordan

House District 45: Waianae, Makaha, Makua

Room 324 - Phone # 586-8460

February 2011



I am honored to be serving as Representative of House District 45. As a resident of the Waianae Coast community for over forty years and a graduate of Waianae High School, I am a product of this community. I served as a Member of the Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board for over 10 years and as Chair for 3 years before receiving this appointment. I also served on various advisory and community groups. Thus, I'm very familiar with issues important to our community.

I was officially sworn in and took office on January 20. As your representative, I serve as Vice Chair of the Committee on Human Services and as a member of the Committees on Finance, Culture and Arts, Hawaiian Affairs, and Health.

Although the deadline to introduce bills was less than a week from my appointment, I was able to introduce a few bills to benefit our community. One of the bills I introduced is HB1405, which establishes a statewide system of greenways and trails that will require the office of planning to develop smart growth principles, which are critical for preservation of open space and sustainability of our islands. I also introduced HB 1664, which appropriates funds for capital improvement projects for each public school in the district, transportation improvements, repairs for the Waianae small boat harbor and state park, and other necessary projects for flood mitigation. The deadline to introduce resolutions is coming up on

March 16. If you would like me to introduce a resolution, please contact my office as soon as possible so arrangements can be made.

Maintaining communication with you on key issues is of great importance to me. Please feel free to share your thoughts with me either by phone at 586-8460, email at repiordan@capitol.hawaii.gov. or at my office.

<u>repjordan@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>, or at my office in room 324 at the State Capitol.

Mahalo,

Representative Jo Jordan



Representative Jordan is welcomed by Representative Clint Tsuji after her swearing in.

#### My Legislative Website

I encourage you to explore the legislative website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov. It allows you to search specific bills, obtain hearing notices, get updates on committee meetings, and explore my website directly. I will be posting daily updates and announcements on my website during the session, which you can access through the capitol website by clicking on my photo or by typing the following address: http://capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/members/house/memberpage.aspx?member=jordan

# **Legislation and Information**

#### **Measures Introduced:**

Measure	es Title
HB718	RELATING TO FOSTER YOUTH.
<u>HB761</u>	RELATING TO INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES.
<u>HB1264</u>	RELATING TO ELECTRONIC MONITORING.
<u>HB1388</u>	RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.
<u>HB1389</u>	RELATING TO ENERGY.
<u>HB1390</u>	RELATING TO ENTERPRISE ZONES.
<u>HB1391</u>	RELATING TO MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE.
<u>HB1392</u>	RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.
<u>HB1393</u>	RELATING TO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE.
<u>HB1394</u>	RELATING TO MAKUA VALLEY.
<u>HB1395</u>	RELATING TO STATE ENTERPRISE ZONES.
<u>HB1396</u>	RELATING TO HOUSING.
<u>HB1397</u>	RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.
<u>HB1398</u>	RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.
<u>HB1399</u>	RELATING TO PUBLIC ACCESS.
<u>HB1400</u>	RELATING TO SOLID WASTE.
<u>HB1401</u>	RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.
<u>HB1402</u>	RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IM- PACT STATEMENTS.
HB1403	RELATING TO PLANNING.
<u>HB1404</u>	RELATING TO PLANNING.
<u>HB1405</u>	RELATING TO PLANNING.
<u>HB1406</u>	RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.
<u>HB1407</u>	RELATING TO ADOPTION RECORDS.
<u>HB1477</u>	RELATING TO FAMILY JUSTICE CENTERS.
<u>HB1479</u>	RELATING TO QUALIFIED DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDERS.
<u>HB1664</u>	RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FORTY-FIFTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.
<u>HB1665</u>	RELATING TO LANDFILLS.

## **Mortgage Foreclosure Moratorium**

The House passed House Bill 894, HD1 regarding mortgage foreclosures, which I supported. The bill places a five month moratorium on non-judicial foreclosures, while the legislature reviews comprehensive measures. This will keep lenders from quickly processing non-judicial foreclosures, providing due-process to families facing foreclosure as a result of the economic downturn. This bill now moves to the Senate.

#### Hawaii Public Access Room

A number of services and resources are available to the public via the Hawaii Public Access Room. The Hawaii Public Access Room is located in Room 401 at the State Capitol and is open during the session on Monday through Friday from 8am to 6pm and Saturday from 8am to 2pm. You can contact the Hawaii Public Access Room by email at <a href="mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov">par@capitol.hawaii.gov</a> or by phone at 587-0478. Some of the resources available to the public via the Hawaii Public Access Room include the following:

- A public phone for short local calls related to legislative issues
- TTY telephone service for the deaf or hearing impaired.
- Large-print reading materials.
- A complete copy of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, annual updates, and session laws.
- Free copies of your testimony to be presented before Legislative Committees.
- Computers and office supplies to prepare testimony for Legislative Committees.
- Workspace for writing, researching and conducting small meetings.
- Computer terminals to track bills and research issues.
- A television for viewing House and Senate proceedings.
- Hearing notices for the House and Senate and House and Senate Orders of the Day.

## **Upcoming Events:**

- Deadline for legislative resolutions is March 16.
- Keaau Beach Park will be closed for maintenance from Sunday, March 6 at 10 PM—Friday, March 18 at 3 PM.
- Wai'anae Coast Neighborhood Board meetings are every first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at the Wai'anae Neighborhood Community Center. Call the Neighborhood Board Commission Office at 768-3710.

# **An Education Update**

## Governor Releases Capital Improvement Project Funds for Electrical Upgrades to Waianae and Makaha Schools

Governor Abercrombie recently announced that he is releasing nearly \$15 million dollars for Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds for various schools. From this release, the following schools in our area will receive electrical upgrades:

Makaha Elementary School Leihoku Elementary School Waianae Elementary School Waianae Intermediate School Waianae High School

The Governor is dedicated to accelerating Hawaii's economic recovery through a broad ranged series of capital improvement actions called the New Day Work Projects, which are aimed at decreasing unemployment, increasing business activity, and getting people back to work while strengthening communities across Hawaii.



Representative Jordan presents a congratulatory certificate to Waianae Intermediate School.

## **New BOE Appointment Process**

In the 2010 General Election, the people of Hawaii voted in favor of the governor appointing the Board of Education (BOE) members, in place of the current BOE election process. Senate Bill 8, SD1, HD2, was created to specify the details of the appointment process and make them into law.

The current version of the bill provides that the BOE will now consist of nine unpaid members: three representing the city and county of Honolulu, three representing the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, respectively, and three at-large members. These members will be nominated, with the advice and consent of the senate, and approved by the governor. They will have qualification requirements and various terms, which can be a maximum of three 3-year terms. However, the governor may remove any of the members for any reason.

In addition to these nine members, two non-voting members will sit on the BOE. A student representative will be elected by the students, through the state student council, and a military representative will be invited by the appointed BOE.

In the finance committee hearing held February 16, students testified in support of the bill with an amendment to give the student representative partial voting rights. It was not amended to address this issue, due to the urgency of making the appointment process into law, and the fact that HB338, HD1, which is currently in the House Finance Committee, will address this matter specifically.

# Waianae Intermediate School Awarded \$100,000 Grand Prize in Bank for Education Program

On Friday, February 18, 2011, American Savings Bank presented the \$100,000 grand prize award to Waianae Intermediate School for its achievement in the Bank for Education program that ran from September 18 through November 26, 2010. Bank for Education is a unique program designed by American Savings Bank to involve local communities in supporting the education of Hawaii's students. Parents and community members were encouraged to open a new checking account or safe deposit box in honor of the school of their choice. Waianae Intermediate School earned the top spot in the competition, beating over 300 public and private schools around the state. I presented a congratulatory certificate to Waianae Intermediate School on behalf of the House of Representatives.

Community	Survey	2011
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Due to the current economic situation and the large debt that the state is facing this year, the legislature is will be making many tough decisions about government spending. I invite you to fill out the following survey to let me know your top priorities for this legislative session. You can also go to http://capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/members/house/memberpage.aspx?member=jordan and click on "Community Survey 2011" to fill out the survey online.

1. Rate the following issues on their importance to you, by putting an "x" in one of the five boxes next to each issue.

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant
Agriculture					
Economic Development (Jobs)					
Education					
Environment					
Higher Education					
Health Care					
Human Services/ Welfare					
Infrastructure					
Public Safety					
Renewable Energy					
Transportation/ Traffic					
2. What do you fe fall? (Check one o	_		o to deal w	ith the large b	udget short-
Provide fewe	er government s	ervices.			
Raise taxes t	to fund governm	nent programs	S.		
Both cut serv	vices and raise t	axes.			
Other:					
3. Are there any o	concerns or iss	sues you wo	uld like to b	oring to my att	ention?

Mahalo for taking time to fill out this survey.

Please return it to my office by mail (Representative Jordan, State Capitol Rm. 324, 415 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813) or by fax at 586-8464.